

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 CCO-00 /026 W

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Z 041632Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9266

S E C R E T SEOUL 7033

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: JSA AGREEMENT

REF: CINCUNC 031545Z SEP 76

1. AS RESULT OF TODAY'S SESSION OF SECRETARIES, WE ARE NOW DOWN TO ONE LAST ISSUE: DEFINITION OF THE CROSSING POINTS WHERE NON-MILITARY PERSONNEL MAY CROSS THE MDL. THE NK HAVE ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF OUR MAJOR CONCERN BY ELIMINATING CIVILIAN USE OF THE "BRIDGE OF NO RETURN". WE PROPOSED TWO POINTS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE MAIN MAC CONFERENCE BUILDING. THEY COUNTERPROPOSED THE ENTIRE CONFERENCE BUILDING SITE TO BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE 3 POINTS BETWEEN THE BUILDINGS AND TWO VEHICULAR-CAPABLE ROADS OUTSIDE.

2. OUR PROPOSAL WOULD FACILITATE IDENTIFICATION MONITORING AND CONTROL OF NON-MILITARY VISITORS, AND PARTICULARLY INHIBIT VEHICULAR TRAFFIC. GENERAL STILWELL WILL EXPLAIN HIS VIEWS ON THIS.

3. MY PERSONAL JUDGEMENT IS THAT, DESPITE THESE ADVANTAGES, IT IS NOT WORTH HOLDING UP OR OTHERWISE RISKING AGREEMENT BECAUSE OF THIS ISSUE, PARTICULARLY SINCE NK HAS BEEN ACCOMMODATING ON ALL OTHER US PROPOSALS.

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4. IF WE STICK ON THIS ISSUE AND NK REFUSES TO BACK DOWN, BREAKDOWN OF NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE RISKED WITH NK CLAIMING NEGOTIATING RECORD PUTS IT IN FAVORABLE LIGHT. MAJOR DISADVANTAGE OF HOLDING BACK ON AGREEMENT IS THAT IT GIVES ROKG FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO TRY TO POSE FURTHER OBSTACLES TO AGREEMENT. THEY APPARENTLY TRIED TO DO THIS TODAY BY LEAKING TO PRESS THAT THERE WERE "WIDE AND DEEP" DIFFERENCES OVER "BRIDGE OF NO RETURN."

5. ALSO, I DOUBT FROM PRACTICAL VIEWPOINT DISADVANTAGES TO BE POSED BY STILWELL ARE REALLY THAT IMPORTANT. IT IS DOUBTFUL NK WILL LET VERY MANY, IF ANY, CIVILIANS CROSS MDL. IN PAST, THEY HAVE NOT DONE SO, EXCEPT DURING MAC MEETINGS, AND NOW THERE WILL BE NO NK SECURITY GUARDS ON OUR SIDE TO PROTECT NORTHERN CIVILIANS OR PREVENT DEFECTION. IN FACT OVERALL DISTANCE OF CROSSING POINTS IS ABOUT 15 YARDS FOR OUR PROPOSAL VS. ABOUT 100 YARDS FOR THEIRS. THE TWO PASSAGEWAYS ADJOINING MAC CONFERENCE BUILDING ARE ALSO WIDE ENOUGH (ABOUT 7 PLUS YARDS) TO PERMIT BUT OR TRUCK TO PASS THROUGH, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT BEEN USED IN PAST FOR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC. THERE IS ALSO CONCERN IN CINCUNC THAT 5 PASSAGEWAYS WOULD PERMIT NK TO FLOOD ONE SIDE OF JSA WITH LARGE NUMBER OF ALLEGED CIVILIANS. THIS IS THEORETICALLY TRUE BUT THEY COULD DO THIS WITH TWO PASSAGEWAYS AS WELL.

6. AT MY LAST TALK WITH STILWELL, HE WAS INCLINED TO PUT OUR POSITION TO NK ONCE MORE ON 4 SEPT. IF THEY STICK, HE WOULD FOLD. THIS IS FEASIBLE SINCE NK DID NOT WISH TO SIGN AGREEMENT AT 4 SEPT SESSION. HOWEVER, I SUGGEST WE ACCEPT NOW NK LANGUAGE BEING SENT ON THIS ISSUE AND TWO OTHER MINOR POINTS AND SUGGEST SIGNING SEPT 5.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DMZ, AGREEMENT DRAFT, CITIZEN PROTECTION, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SEOUL07033
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760335-0582
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760990/aaaaczbe.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JSA AGREEMENT
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, KS, KN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006